



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

Spare the Air ADVISORY

July 3, 2001

For Immediate Release

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First Spare the Air Day of the Season

Plan a Clean Air July 4th

High pressure, escalating temperatures, and low winds are resulting in conditions that contribute to the production of ground level ozone--the main ingredient in smog—and that means unhealthy air quality in the Bay Area is forecast for tomorrow, **Wednesday, July 4, 2001**--the first Spare the Air Advisory of the year.

Now, more than ever is the time to conserve electricity—as hot, stagnant weather can also mean high demand on the electrical grid and prompt the use of high-polluting back-up generators.

- Ground level ozone at concentrations over health-based air quality standards impacts those with respiratory and heart conditions as well as the young and elderly.
- Ground level ozone is formed when volatile organic compounds (VOCs) combine with oxides of nitrogen (NOX) in the presence of heat and sunlight. These smog-forming gases are emitted from tailpipes, evaporating gasoline, paints and household products.

Precautions

- **Vigorous outdoor exercise should be limited to the early morning hours or around sunset when ozone levels decrease.**

How you can help

What to do

- **Plan a Spare the Air 4th by carpooling or taking transit to outings with family and friends.**
- **Light the barbecue without lighter fluid--use a chimney starter, instead.**
- **Plan ahead and refuel tonight after 6 p.m. or wait until tomorrow evening.**
- **Put off yard work if you use gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment. And the painting project can wait until it's a cleaner day.**
- **Conserve electricity – set the air conditioner to higher temperature.**

For background and air quality information visit the website: www.sparetheair.org

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